probable that this was done simply in obedience to Urban's commands, and they appear in several instances to have accompanied their letters with a secret message not to put implicit confidence in the official accounts of the election. The peculiar situation had alarmed the consciences of many in the city, but the Cardinal of Geneva and the Cardinal of Milan seem to have been the only members of the College who openly expressed any doubts as to Urban's tide. When questioned, at least during Holy Week and Easter Week, the others seem invariably to have answered that Urban was as true a Pope as St. Peter, or words to a similar effect[1] Francesco Casini, indeed, hinted to Cardinal Orsini that there were some who said that he was not Pope. " Get out of this, you devil," answered that emphatic prince of the Church ; " whoso says this, lies in his throat. He is as much a Pope as you are a doctor of medicine." [2] Afterwards, the cardinals declared that they were still in fear of the Roman populace, surrounded by Urban's spies, and acting under compulsion ; strange stories were told of ultramontane Carmelites and Augustinians who had fared badly at the hands of their Italian brethren for questioning the validity of the election.[8] Nevertheless, it is highly probable that, whether canonical or not, the cardinals would have accepted the situation, had it not been for Urban's own conduct.

Urban entered upon his pontificate with a sincere and uncompromising hatred of the corruption of the Curia and zeal for the reformation of the Church, but with a tacdess vehemence that can only be explained on the assumption that his elevation had turned his head. Not content with enforcing regulations against simony and checking the luxury of the households of the cardinals, he

[1] Cf. especially the report of the Bishop of Viterbo, Pastor, *Acta Inedita,* doc. 3, in which, however, there is a manifest Urbanist exaggeration.

[2] Testimony of Francesco da Siena, *Archivlo Vaticano^* LIV. 17, f 76.

[8] Cf. Gayet, II. pp. 86, 92. One of the Bandaresi is said to have declared that, if any one ventured to call the validity of the election into question, " in veritate Romani quemcumque facientem dubium ponerent in peciia talibus, quod major pars esset auricula."